

Application No.: 10/657,682
Amendment dated: July 20, 2005
Reply to Office Action of: June 23, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): An applicator comprising a hollow elongated tubular handle with a sealed end and an open end and an applicator tip affixed to one end of the hollow elongated tubular handle wherein the applicator may be used to apply small quantity of liquid without absorption and retention of excess amount of the liquid.

Claim 2 (original): An applicator as in claim 1, wherein the applicator tip is affixed to the open end of the hollow elongated tubular handle.

Claim 3 (original): An applicator as in claim 1, wherein the applicator tip is affixed to the sealed end of the hollow elongated tubular handle.

Claim 4 (original): An applicator as in claim 1, wherein the applicator tip is made of an absorbent material.

Claim 5 (original): An applicator as in claim 2, wherein the applicator tip is made of an absorbent material.

Claim 6 (original): An applicator as in claim 3, wherein the applicator tip is made of an absorbent material.

Claim 7 (currently amended): An applicator comprising a hollow elongated tubular handle with ~~both ends~~ two sealed ends, an opening means formed between the two sealed ends to allow the hollow elongated tubular handle to separate into two sections, and an applicator tip affixed to

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each of the two sealed ends of the hollow elongated tubular handle wherein the applicator may be used to apply small quantity of liquid without absorption and retention of excess amount of the liquid.

Claim 8 (original): An applicator as in claim 7, wherein the applicator tip is made of an absorbent material.

Claim 9 (original): An applicator as in claim 7, wherein said opening means is a score line.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An applicator comprising a hollow elongated tubular handle with two ends and with a solid section between the two ends, an opening means formed ~~between the two ends of~~ at the solid section to allow the hollow elongated tubular handle to separate into two sections each with a sealed end, and an applicator tip affixed to each of the two ends of the hollow elongated tubular handle wherein the applicator may be used to apply small quantity of liquid without absorption and retention of excess amount of the liquid.

Claim 11 (original): An applicator as in claim 10, wherein the applicator tip is made of an absorbent material.

Claim 12 (original): An applicator as in claim 10, wherein said opening means is a score line.

Claim 13 (currently amended): An applicator comprising a hollow elongated tubular handle with a sealed end and an open end, a score line formed between the two ends to allow the sealed end to separate from the ~~remainder~~ open end of the elongated tubular handle, and an applicator tip affixed to said open end of the hollow elongated tubular handle wherein the applicator may be used to apply small quantity of liquid without absorption and retention of excess amount of the liquid and may also be used to retrieve and apply a larger quantity of liquid after the sealed end is separated from the remainder of the hollow elongated tubular handle.

Claim 14 (original): An applicator as in claim 13, wherein the applicator tip is made of an absorbent material.

Claim 15 (original): An applicator as in claim 13, wherein said opening means is a score line.

Claim 16 (currently amended): An applicator comprising a hollow elongated tubular handle with a sealed end and an open end, a score line formed between the two ends to allow the sealed end to separate from the ~~remainder~~ open end of the elongated tubular handle, and an applicator tip affixed to said sealed end of the hollow elongated tubular handle wherein the applicator may be used to apply small quantity of liquid without absorption and the remainder of the hollow elongated tubular handle may be used to retrieve larger quantity of liquid for application.

Claim 17 (original): An applicator as in claim 16, wherein the applicator tip is made of an absorbent material.

Claim 18 (currently amended): An applicator comprising a hollow elongated tubular handle with two open ends, an opening means formed between the two open ends to allow the elongated tubular handle to separate into two sections, and an applicator tip affixed to one open end of the hollow elongated tubular handle wherein after separation of the hollow elongated tubular handle into two sections, the section without the applicator tip may be used to retrieve liquid for application and the section with the applicator may be used to remove the excess liquid applied.

Claim 19 (original): An applicator as in claim 18, wherein the applicator tip is made of an absorbent material.

Claim 20 (original): An applicator as in claim 18, wherein said opening means is a score line.